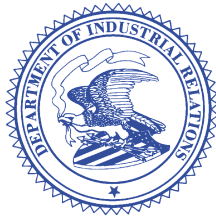


NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF ALABAMA
Department of
Industrial Relations
News For Immediate Release
Contact: Debbie Herbert at
334/242-8609

CAREER CENTERS INVOLVED WITH JOB FAIRS ACROSS ALABAMA

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, September 16, 2005 During this time of crisis and transition after Hurricane Katrina, the Alabama Career Center System is continuing to step up its outreach efforts through its involvement in a series of Job Fairs across the state. Five Job Fairs are scheduled over the next 10 days, with career centers hosting two of them.

“The next Job Fair will be held at the Fort Payne Career Center on September 19 from noon until 5 p.m.,” says Phyllis Kennedy, director of the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, the agency that administers the State Employment Service, one of the partner agencies in the Career Center System. “Besides employment opportunities, the Job Fair will provide useful resources for Hurricane Katrina evacuees, including information on unemployment insurance, Internet and e-mail access, state and local services, and relocation information for the Fort Payne area.”

The Opelika Career Center will host a Job Fair on September 21, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., for veterans and reservists, as well as National Guard personnel returning home to Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi from “Operation Iraqi Freedom.” However, non-veterans are also welcome to attend.

Alabama Career Center System representatives will also participate in the following Job Fairs: *Montgomery Advertiser* Careerbuilder Job Fair, September 20, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Governor’s House Hotel, Montgomery; Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce Job Fair, September 22, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Arthur Outlaw Convention Center, Mobile; and the Western Hills Mall Fall Job Fair, September 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Western Hills Mall, Fairfield.

To contact the Career Center nearest you or for more Job Fair information, call toll-free 866-767-8103, or visit the Alabama JobLink Web site, JobLink@alabama.gov.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the State Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, Workers’ Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on DIR visit the Web site: www.dir.alabama.gov.